Freedom

Anarchist Weekly

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AUGUST 12 1967 Vol 28 No 24

BRITISH BOMBS ON BIAFRA?

We received a copy of a letter (dated August 5, 1967) that was sent to the Prime Minister by the Biafra Union of Great Britain and Ireland, 12 Beresford Road, London, N.5. We are printing it without comment, leaving it to our readers to evaluate the informtaion.

Certain items in The Times *(August 7) tend to confirm some of the allegations.*

If such a sell-out and impending massacre is pending it is as well that we know some of the facts beforehand.

Here is the relevant parts of the letter to Mr. Wilson:

DESPITE our demonstrations and protests it is firmly confirmed that your Government has decided to exterminate Biafrans.

According to the arrangements completed today by the British Government and Nigerian Federal Government:

1. Britain has told the Nigerian Government that Biafra will not last more than three weeks from today.

2. Mr. Horne of Military Supplies has prepared delivery documents for

(a) Twenty-one T.28 bombers; (b) Seven B.26 bombers; (c) Heavy Armour and Rockets; (d) Bailey Bridges.

All these are to be paid for by Shell-BP and Elder Dempster Lines Ltd., who have actually made a part payment of £1,000,000.

3. Capt. Turrant has been instructed to lead the delivery crew of the bombers.

4. British Government has despatched some warships which sailed from Barrow-in-Furness, at 9 a.m., on Thursday, August 3, 1967.

Prior to these transactions, Lt. Col. Gowon's envoy, Chief Enahoro, recently led a mission to Moscow with two objectives:

(a) To nationalise and hand over British oil interests in Biafra and Nigeria to the Soviet Union, provided that the Russians will help Nigeria militarily to exterminate Biafrans and

competition or in collusion, to exterminate Biafrans? Whichever applies, it is most alarming that Britain and Russia should, for the sake of Biafran oil, compromise.

By this latest British decision they are adding to their already unpleasant activities against Biafra. For example:

(a) The brutal massacre of 30,000 Biafrans in cold blood, all over Nigeria, especially the North, was master-minded by British citizens rendering 2,000,000 people refugees in their own country;

(b) The advice to Lt. Col. Gowon to reject Aburi and other subsequent constitutional decisions which could have brought normalcy to the already strife-torn country, Nigeria;

(c) Sir David Hunt's open support for Gowon and his uncalled-for evacuation of British and other foreign nationals from Biafra;

(d) Shell-BP's withholding of the payment of oil royalty, despite an agreement reached in New York by the oil companies to pay Biafra in the event of outbreak of hostilities;

(e) The invasion of the port of Bonny by the Federal troops using the vessels supplied and manned by Shell-BP, U.A.C. Ltd., John Holts Ltd. and Elder Dempster Lines Ltd.;

(f) The suppression and distortion of Biafran news by the British Press and Radio;

(g) That *The Times* of July 17, 1967, has suggested that a swift campaign is required in Nigeria (i.e. against Biafra) if the economy of Nigeria and the interest of Britain are to be safeguarded. It is on this suggestion that massive military aid is being given by Britain to Nigeria; and

(h) British Government's refusal to declare their stand in the present Nigerian aggression against Biafra whilst America has categorically declared their stand.

Britain should consider the similarity

Robens Aberfan

ON OCTOBER 21, 1966, 116 small children died in the ruin of Pantglas Junior School. They died because of the arrogance and the stupidity of bureaucrats in high office who knowingly and deliberately failed to carry out the functions of their highly paid office. On October 26 a tribunal was set in motion by Cledwyn Hughes, the Secretary of State for Wales, and Lord Justice Edmund Davies has now handed history its report. It is a scathing and a bitter document that cries of a *terrifying tale of bungling ineptitude* that *could and should have been prevented* and it names nine men who must bear the blame for the deaths of the 144 people who died in the village of Aberfan on that tragic day.

We who were but spectators to the publicised carnage of that day can neither demand revenge nor claim forgiveness for these men, for neither gifts are ours to dispense, only the living who were unwillingly forced to sacrifice their children can make these decisions.

Our role is but to record the facts and examine our own position in relation to these tragedies, for every man that claims a cheaper bag of coal, or sells his vote for a cheaper loaf without questioning the source of his saving, must bear his share of the responsibility for the pressures that his actions exert on those who seek political and economic power by pandering to his desires.

On the Easter of 1958 TIP 7 was started in Aberfan and slowly this mound of industrial scum rose above the village, and two years later the murmured warnings of the village streets became public, only to be brushed aside as the groundless gossip of those forced to live in the shadow of TIP 7, for, claimed authority, this was the *economic* place to tip the NCB's industrial scum.

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(a) To nationalise and hand over British oil interests in Biafra and Nigeria to the Soviet Union, provided that the Russians will help Nigeria militarily to exterminate Biafrans; and

(b) To ensure that by controlling both Biafran/Nigerian oil and the Middle East oil, Russia and their stooges will be in a position to distribute the oils to whomsoever they want, hence the so-called Cultural Agreement between Nigeria and Russia.

From the foregone, are the British Government and the Russians acting in promise.

By this latest British decision they are adding to their already unpleasant activities against Biafra. For example:

(a) The brutal massacre of 30,000 Biafrans in cold blood, all over Nigeria, especially the North, was master-minded by British citizens rendering 2,000,000 people refugees in their own country;

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(h) British Government's refusal to declare their stand in the present Nigerian aggression against Biafra whilst America has categorically declared their stand.

Britain should consider the similarity between Israeli/Arab war and Biafra/Nigeria war. . . .

We therefore ask the British Prime Minister to think again because even now it is not too late for Britain to save her face by making a categorical statement on her stand in the dispute between Biafra and Nigeria.

Britain should advise oil companies not to take sides in the dispute, but to follow established commercial precedents in the world. . . .

Please remember that the life of 15 million Biafrans rests on your decision from this appeal.

E. E. BRIGGS,
President.

FINE AGI,
General Secretary.

We who were but spectators to the publicised carnage of that day can neither demand revenge nor claim forgiveness for these men, for neither gifts are ours to dispense, only the living who were unwillingly forced to sacrifice their children can make these decisions.

Our role is but to record the facts and examine our own position in relation to these tragedies, for every man that claims a cheaper bag of coal, or sells his vote for a cheaper loaf without questioning the source of his saving, must bear his share of the responsibility for the pressures that his actions exert on those who seek political and economic power by pandering to his desires.

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In January of 1964, Mrs. Williams told a town planning committee of her fears concerning TIP 7, and one can only quote the tribunal who state that not only was nothing done, but there was *a sorry tale of inertia and neglect and one from which the taint of subterfuge and arrogance by the National Coal Board is not wholly absent.*

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THE SOCIAL SECURITY

MISS MARGARET HERBISON has finally done the human thing (remarkable in a politician) of resigning from Wilson's Government over the matter of the niggardly increases in family allowances. She considers the increases (which will be wiped out by price increases long before they are paid) too little and too late.

For the past couple of years or so the good lady must have been looking the other way, it seems. Only now has she discovered that poverty, real, grinding, rotten poverty exists amid the 'affluent society', and she, probably, has failed to recognise that much of that poverty exists not in spite of, but *because* of the Ministry of Social Security. Miss Herbison resigns over seven measly bob, but for years (at a salary of over £160 a week, which might have a lot to do with it) she sat complacently ignoring one of the most infamous bureaucratic devices of all—the 'wage stop rule'.

Under this, hundreds of thousands of *working* men—not unemployed—are prevented from receiving what the Ministry itself considers a 'living income'. Should these unfortunates stop work and claim benefit, they will be (a) suspended from benefit for six weeks because they *gave up* employment, and (b) prevented from receiving any more than they would have got working. So they stay poor.

Herbison's resignation proves, for me, one point. The affair confirms completely the anarchist contention that the bureaucrats, not MPs and ministers, really make the decisions. Social Security officials are probably the worst (or best!) examples of bureaucrats arou hardest, cruellest and people I have ever with. Consider the S —at least the public are mostly dingy and *once* have I seen a S which had a public use staff toilets are r If you go outside, yo in the queue. When, f a very long time—bu and fags), your name a (screwed down) s usually brisk and ove No matter how tall y find that you are al

Robens and the Aberfan Dead

ON OCTOBER 21, 1966, 116 small children died in the ruin of Pantglas Junior School. They died because of the arrogance and the stupidity of bureaucrats in high office who knowingly and deliberately failed to carry out the functions of their highly paid office. On October 26 a tribunal was set in motion by Cledwyn Hughes, the Secretary of State for Wales, and Lord Justice Edmund Davies has now handed history its report. It is a scathing and a bitter document that cries of a *terrifying tale of bungling ineptitude* that *could and should have been prevented* and it names nine men who must bear the blame for the deaths of the 144 people who died in the village of Aberfan on that tragic day.

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In 1963 the NCB began to tip *tailings* onto TIP 7 and these fine particles of coal waste quickly turned into a grey quicksand because of the rain above and the hidden spring below. But still the NCB failed to investigate the repeated complaints even when there was a slide in TIP 7 in 1963. And this is the [illegible] they will bear their black cross until the day of their own deaths. If we have sympathies let it be for the parents of Aberfan who lost their children and for that very small minority of those nine men named in the report who, because of our human failings, will be forever damned within the communities wherein they will live.

Yet there is one man who not only deserves to be named but should be named for when this tragedy was taking place My Lord Robens was prancing along in the brand new robes of the first Chancellor of the University of Surrey. This political appointee spread out his arms to an indifferent world as the father figure of the coal industry, a man prepared to give true and honest evidence before the world and to accept the responsibilities of his highly paid office, yet when the cards were laid upon the tribunal tables he has shuffled to the political rat holes of Whitehall for comfort and advice, for this is the man whom the tribunal personally criticised for his misleading remarks on television concerning TIP 7 and the tribunal accuses Robens of deliberately misinforming the Secretary for Wales that these tips were regularly inspected when this was not so.

Whether Robens resigns or not is now a matter of indifference for this £12,000 a year hollow man is already at the head of the queue for other well-paid jobs should this particular coal caper turn sour. The Establishment has, almost to a man, decided to rally around one of its adopted sons, even to the Prime Minister, and it is claimed that all those ill involved in the Aberfan tragedy have found their escape clause in the belief that if they offer a collective resignation then nothing will be done for one does not decimate an entire platoon of the *boys*.

It is now argued that men in authority cannot be expected to resign every time a lorry crashes or a plane fails to land right way up, but in the matter of Aberfan these are false analogies, for these minehead pits are an active, daily and self-evident part of the coal industry and must, by their very nature, form part of the policy directives of any capi- platform of hindsight for for too many years these men and women stood on dark and windy corners propagating the New Jerusalem. Year by year, in small back-street rooms, they have poured out their dreams into the tatty leaflet that men pushed into their pockets to read in an idle hour. And in the Welsh hills and the shadowed valleys men spoke of a Wales without the industrial scabs that littered its countrysides, a Wales where men did not spit out their lives in a dark sub-world that coal might be shipped for State or Private Profit to the cancerous industrial hells that we call England, and the politicians waxed fat on these splendid dreams and brought the morality of the secondhand car market to take its place.

And when TIP 7 turned into a flowing sewer of filth to destroy the children of Aberfan, the Rt. Hon. Emanuel Shinwell, MP, raised his ancient social democratic head and from the London seat of power, chanted that as much as he would *like to clear away the pit-heap monstrosities, for safety and amenity reasons, the cost would be beyond our resources for some years ahead.* AND THE COST? £10,000,000 to £15,000,000 over a period of four years.

Wales, Wales, you have reason to weep when knaves and fools claim your loyalties and your allegiance and of their witless thoughtlessness mock your sacred dead.

ARTHUR MOYSE.

LABOUR PEERS

HAROLD WILSON has just ennobled 14 people to further the cause of the working class in the House of Lords. If one really believes that socialism can be achieved through Parliament, there might be an arguable case for this—after all at present the House of Lords isn't as bad as the Commons.

But who are these doughty Proletarian Peers, these knights in armour and barons fighting the battles of Labour, raising high the banner of Justice against old entrenched privileges, sacrificing their own socialist principles in order to take titles in which no doubt they do not be-

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In January of 1964, Mrs. Williams told a town planning committee of her fears concerning TIP 7, and one can only quote the tribunal who state that not only was nothing done, but there was *a sorry tale of inertia and neglect and one from which the taint of subterfuge and arrogance by the National Coal Board is not wholly absent.*

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When Sir Thomas Dugdale found that his advisers within the Civil Service had let him down he resigned, and when Miss Herbison felt that the Cabinet was betraying the Party she too resigned. Whatever Robens does now is a matter of indifference, for he has earned contempt by his very hesitation. He does not need time to contemplate these matters for, like the parents of the children, he has had many months to think out his future pattern of action.

Yet when the sentimental Left accuse they do not stand on the

And when TIP 7 turned into a flowing sewer of filth to destroy the children of Aberfan, the Rt. Hon. Emanuel Shinwell, MP, raised his ancient social democratic head and from the London seat of power, chanted that as much as he would *like to clear away the pit-heap monstrosities, for safety and amenity reasons, the cost would be beyond our resources for some years ahead.* AND THE COST? £10,000,000 to £15,000,000 over a period of four years.

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Well there's:—

No. 1—the wife of a director of the company that owns the *Daily Mirror*;

No. 2—Lady Llewelyn-Davies, wife of Lord Llewelyn-Davies;

No. 3—the managing director of Trollope & Colls (builders and civil engineers) — a bemedalled colonel;

Nos. 4 and 5—a couple of accountants, one a company director of Grampian Television, the other retained by the TUC;

No. 6—an ex-Liberal MP;

Nos. 7 and 8—the former chairmen of two county councils (who lost their posts when the voters registered their lack of confidence in Labour last May as a result of Wilsundra's policies);

No. 9—the former chairman of a committee to present a gift to Winston Churchill;

No. 10—an university don—emeritus;

No. 11—one social worker, and 'gentleman farmer';

Nos. 12-14—three TU officials (or former TU officials).

One could hardly expect Labour to state its class interests more clearly than that! (The same number of company directors as TU officials, and all jobs representing those who have in some way or another succeeded within class society.)

THE SOCIAL SECURITY MYTH

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Continued on page 2

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STONE WALLS DO NOT A PRISON

I LEFT Winson Green Prison handcuffed to a bigamist whose most corny effort was to repeat the hackneyed lines of Richard Lovelace's *To Althea—from Prison*:

'Stone walls do not a prison make
Nor iron bars a cage'

and then in an Irish accent that must have lured him into bigamy my yokefellow added, 'But—oh boy!—How they help.'

* * *

You may ask what I, a desperate conscientious objecting felon was doing in handcuffs? I was simply being transferred from one jail to another. One of the things which turned some of the public in favour of Mick Jagger and led in some measure to the success of his appeal was his ostentatious display of his handcuffs. It will not be recalled, although Jagger in his *Times* interview, referring to Oscar Wilde, said that one of the wounds inflicted upon Oscar Wilde was to conduct him in handcuffs through the public on Clapham Junction station on his way to Reading Jail.

It is not only the stone walls and iron bars which make a prison, the whole apparatus is designed to break the human spirit. All one's privileges are turned into punishments, all one's rights are turned into denials. One is forbidden to communicate news about the prison to the outside world, or rather, it was put more delicately to me by a censor-screw, 'You can say anything you like about the prison, such as . . . "the food's good" for instance.'

Luckily not everyone stays in prison for ever and some of my best friends are old lags and therefore I was able to get some news of what is happening to Nic Walter and Jim Radford through this channel, if not through any other. Further news must await their discharge at 8.30 a.m., August 25.

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THE SOCIAL SECURITY MYTH

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They have peculiar ways of assessing your needs, these guys. One old man I know of asked for a supplementary pension (which Herbison's adverts told him were his by right). He was given one and fourpence. He spent two shillings going down to apply! Another favourite line is, 'Sorry, we give nothing unless you've got hire purchase commitments'. And this brings up another point.

The majority of applicants for assistance don't own their homes. Their inflated rents (usually for furnished accommodation) are often the biggest item in the family expenditure. The Social Security pays this rent—and the only person who benefits? The landlord! People with low incomes can often only obtain household necessities by hire purchase. The Social Rachmans annually. The assistance official wouldn't think of representing the family at the rent tribunal; no fear, that's not his job, he just takes a note of the rent (not uncommonly £6 for one or two rooms) and happily pays it out. The capitalist press would have us believe that the taxpayer supports layabouts—we don't, we support landlords. Calvin Hernton, writing in *Peace News*, recently confirmed that a similar situation exists in the USA.

Margaret Herbison's resignation will do not one bit of good. The wage stop rule will stay and the poor will get poorer. The Ministry of Social Security will continue to issue reports like the one they released a few weeks ago—safe in the knowledge that the performing seals of the Westminster Gasworks will never make them do anything about it. The 'hungry 30's' are about to be repeated—unemployment is now at its highest since 1941. And Wilson will take the classic capitalist solution. Guns before butter. The unemployed will pay for the contradictions of capitalist economics.

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Silesia in German Eyes	Kazimierz Popiolek	3/6
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Vol 9 1959: Print, Press & Public
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Anarchist Federation of Britain

(As there is no national secretariat for enquiries, speakers, etc., please contact local groups.)

1967 AFB CONFERENCE. Oct. 6, 7, 8. For details of London venue and proposals for agenda apply to LFA.

LONDON FEDERATION OF ANARCHISTS. Temporary address c/o Wooden Shoe, 42 New Compton Street, London, W.C.2.
Sunday evening meetings 8 p.m. Lamb & Flag, Rose Street, off Garrick Street, London, W.C.2 (Leicester Square tube).

Aug. 13 MURRAY BOOKSHIN (New York)
Subject to be announced

LEWISHAM. Locations of meetings temporarily altered to 83 Gregory Crescent, London, S.E.9.
EALING ANARCHIST GROUP. Get into touch with Ken King, 54 Norwood Road, Southall.

OFF-CENTRE LONDON DISCUSSION MEETINGS

3rd Wednesday of each month at Jack Robinson and Mary Canipa's, 21 Rumbold Road, S.W.6 (off King's Road), 8 p.m.
Meeting Wednesday, August 16. Murray Bookshin (New York).
3rd Friday of each month at 8 p.m. at Donald and Irene Rooum's, now at 13 Savernake Road, London, N.W.3.

REGIONAL FEDERATIONS AND GROUPS

ALTRINCHAM ANARCHIST YOUTH GROUP. Get in touch with Stephen Richards, 25 North Vale Road, Timperley, Cheshire.
ABERDEEN GROUP. Correspondence to Michael Day, 86 Rosemount Place, Aberdeen.
BEXLEY ANARCHIST GROUP. Correspondence to Paul Wildish, 2 Cumbrian Avenue, Barnehurst, Kent.
BELFAST: Contact Tony Adams, 11 Winetavern Street, Smithfield Square, Belfast.
BIRMINGHAM ANARCHIST GROUP. Secretary: Geoff Charlton, 8 Lightwoods Hill, Bearwood, Smethwick, 41. Regular meetings at Geoff and Caroline's above address, top flat. First Wednesday of month.
RESISTANCE GROUP. C/o Birmingham Peace Action Centre (formerly CND office), Factory Road, Birmingham, 19.
BOLTON. Get in touch with Les Smith, 74 Arnold Street, Bolton, Lancs.
BRIGHTON. Get in touch with 79 Coleman Street, Brighton, 7. Poetry readings every Sunday from 4 to 5 p.m. at the Fishmarket. All poets welcome.
BRISTOL. Contact: Dave Thorne, 49 Cotham Brow, Bristol, 6.
DUNDEE GROUP. Contact Bob and Una Turnbull, 39 Stratheden Park, Stratheden Hospital, by Cupar, Fife.
GLASGOW ANARCHIST GROUP ONE. Correspondence to Robert Lynn, 2b Saracen Head Lane, Glasgow, C.1.
HARLOW ANARCHIST GROUP. Enquiries to Keith Nathan, 138 Pennymead, Harlow or John Barrick, 14 Centre Avenue, Epping.
HERTS. Contact either Stuart Mitchell at South View, Potters Heath Lane, Potters Heath, Welwyn, Herts OR Jeff Cloves, 46 Hughendon Road, Marshalswick, St. Albans, Herts.
HULL ANARCHIST GROUP. J. Tempest, 8 p.m. 1st and 3rd Mondays of month. The Cabin, Blue Bell Inn, Queen Street.
address.
IPSWICH ANARCHISTS. Contact Neil Dean, 74 Cemetery Road, Ipswich, Suffolk.
KILBURN, LONDON. Contact Andrew Dewar, 16 Kilburn House, Malvern Place, London, N.W.6. Meetings 8 p.m. every Tuesday.
LEE, LONDON, S.E.12. Anarchist-Radical Group. Contact 'Paul', c/o Lewisham Group (above).
ORPINGTON ANARCHIST GROUP. Knockholt, Nr. Sevenoaks, Kent. Every six weeks at Greenways, Knockholt. Phone: Knockholt 23'' Brian and Maureen Richardson.
PLYMOUTH ANARCHIST FEDERATION. Contact J. Hill, 79 Underlane, Plymstock, Plymouth, Devon.
READING ANARCHIST GROUP. Contact Alan Ross, 116 Belmont Road, Reading, Berks.
ROCHDALE. Please contact Richard Crawford, 4 Hargreaves Street
ROCHESTER AN
Eryl Davies, 22 St.
Fortnightly meeting
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SOUTH WEST
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TROWBRIDGE
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My informant met Jim and Nic at public affairs 'Current Events' discussion where they tried to put forward progressive views but (alas!) most prisoners are strong advocates of authoritarianism and punishment. There is also virulent colour prejudice (and there has been some trouble about this) amongst prisoners—and warders.

Unfortunately the classes close for the summer until September. A suggestion was made that prisoners organise their own (if you will pardon the expression) Free University, but this was rejected, partly because it meant more work for the 'screws' who are, in the main, not very interested in the prisoners' welfare.

Jim and Nic receive quite a lot of letters but they are not allowed to send replies. Prisoners can receive books with permission of the Governor (hardback only) but they must be left in the prison library.

According to *Peace News* they are allowed to read *Peace News* but not to pass it on and it has to be handed back in 48 hours. FREEDOM, however, is only allowed for one night (must be the size!). *International Times* is banned altogether —I hear it's banned in Spanish prisons too! They would be glad to receive any other political papers *provided they are sent direct from the publisher without any enclosure.*

These niggling regulations are the fabric from which prisons are made.

Stone walls can be cracked or climbed over, iron bars can be bent but prison rules are uncrackable and unbendable. A loved screw used to say, 'You're here for punishment, not for nourishment', but he was not quite accurate. Being in prison IS the punishment.

The whole system hopes to make self-respect from squalor, morality from harshness, self-reliance from unthinking obedience, new values from degradation, and useful citizens from cowed or hypocritical slaves. In that the prison system is doomed to failure.

JACK ROBINSON.

CIAL SECURITY MYTH

Continued from page 1

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IAN S. SUTHERLAND.

Mao's Territorial Claims

A PROPAGANDA WAR is hotting up in Speakers' Corner between the Russian and Chinese Communists.

The Chinese literature stand is occupying long stretches of the railings—next to the 'traditional' communists.

There has been ill-feeling for several weeks. Also accusations of 'easy money' being made under the guise of propaganda.

Hyde Park gates are traditionally used on Sundays by many organisations to sell their literature.

On sale usually are *Morning Star, Socialist Current, Irish Militant, Soviet Weekly, Peace News* and (sometimes) FREEDOM.

Now the Chinese Communists, using lurid propaganda posters, are outselling everybody. Mao's shining head, held up by brawny workmen's arms is a crude but effective crowd-stopper. The police objected, but the chief salesman, who looks like Mao, put the 'finger' on the rest of the literature sellers. 'Why not tell them to go,' he said.

So the police last Sunday objected to all literature being sold there. They threatened sellers with prosecution. This forced the *Morning Star* man to pack up and also the little old gentleman who sells the *Soviet Weekly* was told to go.

The Chinese stand, ironically, was left alone—they, like the hamburger and fruit sellers have 'learnt' how to handle the police.

Nevertheless an individualist Maoist, Paul Pawlowski, did get arrested. He refused to obey police instructions to move on. The erstwhile anarchist was selling the little red book.

This Sunday (August 13) all the newspaper sellers are intending to make a

THIS WE AFFIRM

JOHN CALDER is soon to defend our most basic and vital liberties—for the right to freely communicate our ideas, thoughts and opinions with others is once again in danger. Once more the continuous dissemination of all knowledge, and the unimpeded access to freely offered information, is under attack, and the artist's essential right, to preserve his creativeness in its original form, is questioned. Calder and Boyars have long been subject to a sustained campaign from a politically-motivated censorial group. On the basis of a successful private summons the DPP is to prosecute Calder at the Old Bailey this autumn for publishing Selby's *Last Exit*. The Majority Verdicts Bill ensures that three enlightened and tolerant jurors are essential while the cost of an adequate defence could mean the compulsory liquidation of this specialist literary publishing house.

We have not chosen Calder to fight *OUR* battles, nor has he volunteered his services but circumstances force him to represent all men of good will. His fate will determine the future permissive or repressive climate.

We must help him *Now*.

ARTHUR MOYSE,
TINA MORRIS,
DAVE CUNLIFFE.

[This is the text of a poster issued by the above signatories. The address to which donations should be sent is Free Art Legal Fund, c/o M. White, Chartered Acct., 61 Welbeck Street, London, W.1.]

HARLOW ACTIVITIES

ON SATURDAY, August 19, Harlow Anarchist Group will be holding a Public Meeting in Harlow Town Centre for which they would like more speakers. Meeting starts at 1.30 p.m.

On Wednesday, August 23, they will be holding a meeting entitled 'Anarchic Harlow'. (This, Keith Nathan says, is 'the programme to libertarianise the structure of Harlow' which the group are still discussing.) This meeting takes place at the Moot House.

On August 26 Harlow Anarchists will partake in the Town Show, the following Sunday they will have a Social.

Harlow are especially anxious to make formal or informal contacts with comrades or groups in Essex, East Anglia or in the Harlow area. Harlow proposes an anarchist gathering on Monday, August 28. If comrades write

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On August 26 Harlow Anarchists will partake in the Town Show, the following Sunday they will have a Social.

Harlow are especially anxious to make formal or informal contacts with comrades or groups in Essex, East Anglia or in the Harlow area. Harlow proposes an anarchist gathering on Monday, August 28. If comrades write accommodation can be arranged.

On Monday evening there will be an Open Forum in Harlow (for people contacted at the Town Show).

K.N. & J.R.

ist Federation of Britain

al secretariat for enquiries, speakers, etc., please contact local groups.)

ENCE. Oct. 6, 7, 8. venue and proposals for

ION OF ANARCHISTS. o Wooden Shoe, 42 New n, W.C.2.
ngs 8 p.m. Lamb & Flag, ck Street, London, W.C.2

OKSHIN (New York) d

ns of meetings temporarily Crescent, London, S.E.9.
ST GROUP. Get into ng, 54 Norwood Road,

LONDON MEETINGS

h month at Jack Robinson 21 Rumbold Road, S.W.6 m.
August 16. Murray Bookshin

onth at 8 p.m. at Donald ow at 13 Savernake Road,

DERATIONS

RCHIST YOUTH GROUP. tephen Richards, 25 North , Cheshire.
P. Correspondence to mount Place, Aberdeen.
T GROUP. Correspondence mbrian Avenue, Barnehurst.

ony Adams, 11 Winetavern re, Belfast.
RCHIST GROUP. Secre- 8 Lightwoods Hill, Bear- 1. Regular meetings at Geoff and Caroline's above address, top flat. First Wednesday of month.

RESISTANCE GROUP. C/o Birmingham Peace Action Centre (formerly CND office), Factory Road, Birmingham, 19.

BOLTON. Get in touch with Les Smith, 74 Arnold Street, Bolton, Lancs.

BRIGHTON. Get in touch with 79 Coleman Street, Brighton, 7. Poetry readings every Sunday from 4 to 5 p.m. at the Fishmarket. All poets welcome.

BRISTOL. Contact: Dave Thorne, 49 Cotham Brow, Bristol, 6.

DUNDEE GROUP. Contact Bob and Una Turnbull, 39 Stratheden Park, Stratheden Hospital, by Cupar, Fife.

GLASGOW ANARCHIST GROUP ONE. Correspondence to Robert Lynn, 2b Saracen Head Lane, Glasgow, C.1.

HARLOW ANARCHIST GROUP. Enquiries to Keith Nathan, 138 Pennymead, Harlow or John Barrick, 14 Centre Avenue, Epping.

HERTS. Contact either Stuart Mitchell at South View, Potters Heath Lane, Potters Heath, Welwyn, Herts OR Jeff Cloves, 46 Hughendon Road, Marshalswick, St. Albans, Herts.

HULL ANARCHIST GROUP. J. Tempest, 8 p.m. 1st and 3rd Mondays of month. The Cabin, Blue Bell Inn, Queen Street.
address.

IPSWICH ANARCHISTS. Contact Neil Dean, 74 Cemetery Road, Ipswich, Suffolk.

KILBURN, LONDON. Contact Andrew Dewar, 16 Kilburn House, Malvern Place, London, N.W.6. Meetings 8 p.m. every Tuesday.

LEE, LONDON, S.E.12. Anarchist-Radical Group. Contact 'Paul', c/o Lewisham Group (above).

ORPINGTON ANARCHIST GROUP. Knockholt, Nr. Sevenoaks, Kent. Every six weeks at Greenways, Knockholt. Phone: Knockholt 23'' Brian and Maureen Richardson.

PLYMOUTH ANARCHIST FEDERATION. Contact J. Hill, 79 Underlane, Plymstock, Plymouth, Devon.

READING ANARCHIST GROUP. Contact Alan Ross, 116 Belmont Road, Reading, Berks.

ROCHDALE. Please contact Richard Crawford, 4 Hargreaves Street, Sudden, Rochdale.

ROCHESTER ANARCHIST GROUP. Contact Eryl Davies, 22 St. Margaret's Street, Rochester. Fortnightly meetings.

SLOUGH. Contact Sid Rawle, 4 Hillperton Road, Slough, Bucks.

SOUTH EAST ESSEX ANARCHIST GROUP. We would love to hear from fellow-sympathisers in area. All enquiries to M. Powell, 7 Lingcroft, Basildon, Essex.

SOUTH WEST MIDDLESEX ANARCHIST Group meets alternate Thursdays and Saturdays, on Eel Pie Island. Contact P. J. Goody, 36 Norman Avenue, Hanworth, Middlesex.

TROWBRIDGE PEACE ACTION GROUP. Contact P. Weston, Chivele, Butts Lane, Keevil, Trowbridge, Wiltshire. Meetings every Tuesday 7.30 p.m. Friends' Meeting House (opp. Bus Station).

NORTH-WEST FEDERATION

Regional Secretary: Alistair Rattray, 35a Devonshire Road, Chorley.

NORTH WEST ANARCHIST FEDERATION.

BUXTON ANARCHIST GROUP. Secretary: F. A. Gresty, Punchbowl, Manchester Road, Buxton.

CHORLEY ANARCHIST GROUP. Secretary: Anne Marie Fearon, 16 Devonshire Road, Chorley.

LIVERPOOL ANARCHIST PROPAGANDA GROUP AND 'HIPPY' MOVEMENT. Gerry Bree, 16 Faulkner Square, Liverpool, 8. Meetings weekly. 'Freedom' Sales—Pier Head, Saturdays, Sundays, Evenings.

MANCHESTER ANARCHIST GROUP. Secretary: Dave Poulson, 9 Boland Street, Fallowfield, Manchester, 14.

WEST HAM ANARCHISTS. Contact Stephen Higgs, 8 Westbury Road, Forest Gate, E.7.

LIBERTARIAN TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION. Meetings—discussions—activities. Contact Peter Ford, 82 North Road, Highgate, N.6. (Tel.: MOU 5702.)

SOUTH WALES ANARCHIST FEDERATION

CARDIFF ANARCHIST GROUP, SWANSEA ANARCHIST GROUP. All correspondence to:— Julian Ross, 11 Wellfield Close, Bishopston, Swansea.

PROPOSED GROUPS

NORTH EAST ESSEX. Would readers interested in proposed group write to P. Newell, "Maybush", Maypole Road, Tiptree, Essex.

ELTHAM. 'Sons of Durrutti' Group. Get in touch with T. Liddle, 83 Gregory Crescent, London, S.E.9.

BIRKENHEAD. Please get in touch with G. Woodhouse, 59 Cambridge Road, Woodchurch, Birkenhead.

MUCH HADHAM, HERTS. Get in touch with Leslie Riordan, High Street, Much Hadham, Herts.

BATH ANARCHISTS don't exist! Or do they? Contact Roy Emery, 3 Abbey Street, Bath.

ABROAD

AUSTRALIA. Federation of Australian Anarchists, P.O. Box A 389, Sydney South. Public meetings every Sunday in the Domain, 2 p.m. and Mondays, 72 Oxford Street, Paddington, Sydney, 8 p.m.

DANISH ANARCHIST FEDERATION. Gothersgade, 27, Viborg, Denmark.

VANCOUVER, B.C., CANADA. Anyone interested in forming anarchist and/or direct action peace group contact Derek A. James, 1844 Grand Boulevard, North Vancouver, B.C., Canada. Tel.: 987-2693.

U.S.A. VERMONT/NEW HAMPSHIRE. Discussion group meets weekly. Contact Ed Strauss at RFD 2, Woodstock, Vermont 05091, USA.

SWEDEN. Stockholm Anarchist Federation. Contact Nadir, Box 19104, Stockholm 19, Sweden.

CANADA: Winnipeg. Anybody interested in Direct action/anarchy contact G. J. Nasir, 606 Matheson Avenue, Winnipeg, 17, Manitoba.

BELGIUM: LIEGE. Provos, c/o Jacques Charlier, 11 Avenue de la Laiterie, Sclessin-Liege, Belgium.

EAST AFRICA. George Matthews would like to make contact. Secondary school teacher from UK. PO Box 90, Kakamega, Kenya.

USA: NORTH-EASTERN MINNESOTA. Contact James W. Cain, 323 Fourth Street, Cloquet, Minn. 55720. USA.

GROUP-(T)REASON. Australian Anarchist, c/o Melbourne University Union or A.R. Giles Peters, c/o same.

Obituary: MARIE GOLDBERG

NATURAL as it is that old comrades should die and young ones fill the scene with new ways of bringing the anarchist idea to bear on new situations, there is in the passing of such comrades as Marie Goldberg a grief that is more than sentiment and a memory that is more than nostalgia. Never a political figure, in all her 80-odd years' life (even the year of her birth was not thought sufficiently momentous to be put on record) she never wrote an article or spoke from a platform, yet her life and her part in our movement are worth setting down as a heartener for we rank-and-file anarchists who may sometimes feel that we can do so little it is hardly worth trying.

Marie started out, it is true, with an unusual endowment of courage and independence but little else. Born in Minsk, one of the three children of a tinsmith who worked in the one room which housed all five of the family and who fell victim early in his children's life to T.B., Marie knew hardship from the earliest age. She met it at the age of *nine* by getting herself accepted for employment as a millinery assistant. Her employers were two sisters of Polish nationality and speech, the Ukraine at that point in the wrangle between Russia and Poland being under Polish rule. The work was demanding, the employers not kind; Marie was bitterly unhappy and proudly stuck it out. It is a high tribute to her untaught intellect that this, her first worldly experience, never hoodwinked Marie into confusing nationalism with liberation and thus into diverting time and energy from the essential struggle against exploitation. She is reputed at the age of twelve to have organized a strike in the dressmaking enterprise in which she was by then apprenticed. For the next 70 years this was her means of livelihood, in which she practised a degree of craftsmanship which amounted to art. Her early political activities were carried on in the Left Social Revolutionaries, and although these were serious matters to which she devoted herself conscientiously she told some droll stories of the political meetings carried on in the forest on Sundays, the participants approaching in couples, arms entwined around waists, as lovers seeking seclusion; the ammunition stored in the workbasket underneath the stuffs and cottons, the raid by police in search of arms—hurriedly buried the night before and successfully concealed by a providential overnight snowfall; the more successful raids by her devoted and devout mother on any literature printed in any language other than Hebrew, which was the only writing she could read, in attempts to save her rebellious daughter from the perils of both temporal and spiritual damnation. Marie left Russia at the beginning of the century, after her colleague in the party had been arrested, and she went to Paris. Here she quickly added a second self-taught language to her achievements (she eventually spoke and read fluently, although she always found writing difficult, as well as the Yiddish she had first learned at home, Russian, French and English, all without one single day's formal teaching in her whole life). Here also she met her companion, Henri Goldberg, who was an anarchist, and here their daughter was born. This I think was the happiest period of Marie's life, and somehow despite the fact that she lived longer in England than anywhere else, she seemed to remain 'French'. But many of their fellow-exiles being in England, and the shorter English working hours in his trade being an attraction to her companion, the family came to London. They arrived and went to live in Stepney in 1912, just in time to take in the two children of a striking docker, as their share in the scheme of help to the strikers that was operated throughout the East End. From then on this was the style of contribution to the movement which replaced her earlier more exciting and one might say, violent, activities. She took part in all the activities of the *Freie Arbeiter Stimme*, in the club in Jubilee Street, Stepney, and the later one in Charlotte Street in Central London, did her share towards keeping alive conscientious objectors on the run in the First World War and doing all that friendship could for those of her comrades and friends in internment camps, and opened her home throughout the years to newly arrived comrades and to escapees from the succession of tyrannies by which the peoples of Europe continued to be pursued long after the overthrow of the Russian Czar.

Anarchism was a moral ideal to Marie —and indeed she could be hard in her strictures upon those whom she judged fell short while professing anarchism—rather than a utopian theory. While anti-militarist as a matter of course, she never went into theoretical discussions concerning anarchism-and-pacifism, contenting herself with one of her apt and wise comments: 'In our days you could go into an arsenal and blow it up; what can you do with an atomic weapons factory?'

What, indeed. But whatever we have to do, will be better done if it contains the qualities of courage and generosity and faithfulness that were in Marie Goldberg.

M.C.

Anarchists at Army Open-Day

GENERAL DE GAULLE left Canada in a huff after inciting French-Canadians to throw off their Canadian oppressors (or words to that effect). Stokeley Carmichael (from Cuba) incited the American negroes to greater efforts but the riots seem to have temporarily abated. . . .

THE REVEREND DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, junior, is reported by the US Inf. Service to have said (in Atlanta, Georgia, July 26), 'I'm very sorry that Federal troops had to be called in [in Detroit] but there's no question that when a riot erupts it has to be halted.' *Gone With The Wind*, the 1939 film classic, is to be 'blown-up' for a sixth release in a wide-screen version, starting at Atlanta, Georgia, on October 6. . . .

ON JULY 27 a statement was issued by Martin Luther King, A. Philip Randolph, Roy Wilkins and Whitney M. Young, Jr. —all prominent in Civil Rights movement stating (among other things), 'We call upon Negro citizens throughout the nation to forgo the temptation to disregard the law. This does not mean that we would submit tamely to joblessness, inadequate housing, poor schooling, insult, humiliation and attack. It does require a redoubling of efforts through legitimate means to end these wrongs and disabilities.' . . .

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Hippies & Anarchism

Dear Editor,

We note that in FREEDOM, of 29.7.67, the anarchist group in Liverpool, which was listed for some months as the Liverpool Anarchist Propaganda Group, is now listed as the Liverpool Anarchist Propaganda Group and 'Hippy' Movement. We understand the Hippy Movement currently to be a cross between a movement for free love and brotherhood and a revival of the beatnik society of old Greenwich Village days. We don't know of any Liverpool anarchists who claim to be Hippy Movement people, and although there must be many sympathizers among us, we are not aware of any definite link with the Hippy Movement. Therefore it was a surprise to us to see that line of print. We find it both strange and awe-inspiring. Could this be a suggestion from some unknown friend that we all join the Hippy Movement?

Liverpool, 8 A. CHANNING.

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In an otherwise quite sensible article about a sonic boom test in Downing Street (FREEDOM, 29.7.67) Dave Burden made a rather ambiguous reference to the 'peace movement' which could have

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M.C.

Anarchists at Army Open-Day

IN VIEW of the increasing bloodshed in Aden—the mutiny of Federal Troops and the uprising in the Crater district—Aberdeen Anarchists decided to make their anti-militarist and anti-imperialist views felt at the Open Day of the Gordon Highlanders at Den Barracks, last Saturday.

About two dozen of us turned up, many of the younger ones dressed in top hats, bearskins and such like, making us the centre of attraction, and we began giving out leaflets to the troops and public saying that the British Government was responsible for all the killings in Aden, and demanding that British troops be withdrawn from the area immediately. A series of arguments with soldiers drew crowds from the public, who watched and read our leaflets with evident surprise and interest.

Three of us were soon thrown out by threat-muttering, barely self-controlled militarists for giving out leaflets near the gates; where we then gave leaflets and pamphlets to bored guards who were delighted to be relieved of their ennui. More large crowds gathered as the Open Day ended and we argued with the soldiers outside. They were mostly cretinously stupid, strutting in clichéd poses of toughness or blatantly mercenary—'I get £1,200 a year. I'd kill anybody for that', said one. However, at least one soldier was seen to be disturbed by our arguments and didn't join with his friends in hurling insults at us; and for the general public we were definitely the highlight of the whole affair.

J.R.M.

This is the leaflet

22 BRITONS KILLED IN ADEN!

Recently, 22 British soldiers were killed in an uprising in Aden, adding to the hundreds of Britons and Arabs already killed.

Who were the real murderers?

If an Arab army occupied Britain and closed our elected government, we would all fight this interference in our lives. The British Government dismissed the elected government of Aden—and then wonders why the Adenis are in revolt.

The British (Labour) Government sent the soldiers to die in Aden. THEY ARE THE MURDERERS.

To pay for the military costs in Aden and elsewhere, our wages are frozen, and plans for the replacement of slums, and for new schools and hospitals are abandoned. Meanwhile ministers in the government draw £160 PER WEEK!

We demand:

NO MORE MURDERS IN ADEN! Let the Adenis determine their own future. Bring home the troops.

FULL EMPLOYMENT! Demobilised troops to work, with the rest of us, for the benefit of all. Military bases to be turned to use for production and leisure of the citizens.

NO WAGE FREEZE! There is plenty of money about, it is time we demanded that we get control of it. After all we do all the work!

DOWN WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF MURDERERS!

(Aberdeen YCND, c/o I. R. Mitchell, 137 Faulds Gate, Aberdeen.)

that 'the prospect of being able to get into a college or university is today much greater for young Negro Americans than for young Europeans'. A 'Backgrounder' issued by USIS starts with the immortal words, 'It may be some time before the real meaning of the urban riots, with their widespread burning of buildings, looting and shooting from rooftops, be-

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Dear Comrades,

In an otherwise quite sensible article about a sonic boom test in Downing Street (FREEDOM, 29.7.67) Dave Burden made a rather ambiguous reference to the 'peace movement' which could have given the impression that anarchism is a part of that body. Just in case some new reader thought this, let it be stated loud and clear: anarchism is NOT part of the same movement as CND, PPU, C100, etc. Some people came into the anarchist movement from those organisations. Others, like myself, came by other routes.

I'm sure Dave Burden agrees with this but his article was a bit ambiguous. Another spreader of confusion is Gerry Bree, who has linked anarchism and the Hippy Movement. There's a lot of sense in the hippy attitude to sex. But on other things they are foolish. Stop people in the street and ask them 'What's a hippy?'—you get answers like 'a drug addict', 'the flower people'. I take a drug—alcohol—but I
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AVOIDING GREECE

A LETTER in *The Times* from Mrs. Margaret Curwen, Honorary Secretary of the British Liaison Committee for Women's Peace Groups, is asking for a tourist boycott of Greece.

Mrs. Curwen wants people to postpone their visits to Greece. She asks them to inform the Greek authorities of their decision.

This, she hopes, might improve the lot of the many thousands of **political** prisoners.

Another method is more effective. By all means cancel that **holiday** in Greece but there is much to be done on the spot.

There are many comrades in Greece now, from the International Movement, to see what they can do.

R.

Credit & D

Dear Comrades,

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of the public meetin
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PRESIDENT JOHNSON commenting on the riots said, 'We will not tolerate lawlessness. We will not endure violence. It matters not by whom it is done or under what slogan or banner. It will not be tolerated. This nation will do whatever is necessary to suppress or punish those who engage in it.' . . .

THE WAR IN VIETNAM continued despite rumours of peace. The US made its second heaviest raid on the North. The aircraft-carrier *Forrestal* (named after a Secretary of Defence who went insane and committed suicide because he thought the Russians were after him) caught fire after the crash of a bomb-laden plane and killed 71 Americans, a further 112 are missing. Had this not happened the dead and missing from the plane's bombs would have been North Vietnamese. A US captain was acquitted on a charge of premeditated murder in the shooting of a Vietnamese prisoner. Six soldiers testified that they heard the captain tell a lieutenant to kill the prisoner. Two lieutenants and three enlisted men gave evidence that the captain did not order the Vietnamese to be killed, he only asked if he was dead. . . .

THE AMERICAN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE, William B. Macomber, Jr., replying to a senator, indicated that virtually all free world shipping to North Vietnam was being conducted by vessels flying the British flag, registered in Hong Kong and under charter to Communist China or North Vietnam. Mr. Macomber added, 'In this connection, the British Government will no doubt take into consideration the likely reaction of Communist China towards the Crown Colony of Hong Kong.' . . .

ANNA LOUISE STRONG, in her *Letter from China,* prints an interview with Mr. Le Mai, Press Attache of the SV Liberation Front's mission in Peking in which he said that 'the US programme of rural pacification sustained heavy failure. In three months 5,000 "pacification agents" were killed by the people.' . . .

WRITING OF THE CHINESE BOMB, Anna Louise Strong says, 'In China's cities the bomb brought crowds into the street for all-night singing, dancing, firecrackers, parades. More important, it was hailed by many Afro-Asian nations—the only bomb cheered by any nation except its creator. Ho Chi Minh called it a "powerful inspiration".' . . .

WRITING ON THE SAME SUBJECT in *Sanity,* the voice of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, Mr. Malcolm Caldwell (a member of the editorial committee) writes, '. . . whatever we in the West think about it, there is no doubt that progressive people throughout the coloured world—including the Afro-Americans—have given a whole-hearted welcome to the "Peasants' Bomb". Of course there will be a statistically calculable incidence of deaths, mutant births, etc., which would not have occurred had the Chinese never carried out tests of nuclear weapons. On the other hand . . .', etc. Mr. Caldwell elsewhere pens the well-known phrase, 'Moreover, China's declared policy is the total and absolute abolition of *all* nuclear weapons.' . . .

A POLICEMAN INTERVIEWED on television was asked if it was easier or more difficult to keep the peace. He replied, 'More difficult among the teenagers. They are so much more knowledgable about the law, it makes our job more difficult.'

JON QUIXOTE.

LETTERS

Hippies & Anarchism

Dear Editor,

We note that in FREEDOM, of 29.7.67, the anarchist group in Liverpool, which was listed for some months as the Liverpool Anarchist Propaganda Group, is now listed as the Liverpool Anarchist Propaganda Group and 'Hippy' Movement. We understand the Hippy Movement currently to be a cross between a movement for free love and brotherhood and a revival of the beatnik society of old Greenwich Village days. We don't know of any Liverpool anarchists who claim to be Hippy Movement people, and although there must be many sympathizers among us, we are not aware of any definite link with the Hippy Movement. Therefore it was a surprise to us to see that line of print. We find it both strange and awe-inspiring. Could this be a suggestion from some unknown friend that we all join the Hippy Movement?

Liverpool, 8 A. CHANNING.

Dear Comrades,

In an otherwise quite sensible article about a sonic boom test in Downing Street (FREEDOM, 29.7.67) Dave Burden made a rather ambiguous reference to the 'peace movement' which could have drug—alcohol—but I'm not so daft as to make a religion of it. And as for giving flowers to the police!!! (contd.)!!

Anarchism is revolt, an act of rebellion, a refusal to obey, an assertion of freedom. It is anti-war because war is a restriction of freedom. It is against all laws, which is **not** the same thing as wanting law reform. There are people in the 'peace' and 'hippy' movements with anarchist sympathies. But the word on their lips is 'peace'. Peace—in this society. They have got to be kidding. Cry liberty, and pass the ammunition!

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We should like to give a brief report of the public meeting held in Harlow last Saturday.

The meeting was held in the main shopping centre and attracted the largest crowd of any public meeting in Harlow. We had some hostility, but also many friendly reactions.

On the credit side, we have gained tacit acceptance of our speaking place from the police, we have made new contacts, been promised publicity, as well as sold literature and distributed leaflets. Perhaps as important, the activity left us with interest in furthering such projects (offers of speakers for these and our monthly indoor discussions will be welcomed) rather than with the post-demonstration depression we are used to.

We should like to thank all our friends, our speakers Albert Meltzer, Roger Sandell, Nigel Wilson, Bob Barltrop, John Rety and Philip Sansom, and our helpers from Lewisham, Kilburn, FREEDOM and elsewhere.

The aid we received made the meeting possible, but we feel we should mention the poor performance of the London Federation Secretariat despite the excellent performance of individual members. We received none of the aid we were promised—neither leaflets, a stand (we made our own) nor a list of speakers we were promised. Perhaps if some people could leave the rarified atmosphere of meaningless international conferences, and organisations which are either fossils or mirages, they might be more use as anarchist propagandists themselves.

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c/o I. R. Mitchell,
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that 'the prospect of being able to get into a college or university is today much greater for young Negro Americans than for young Europeans'. A 'Backgrounder' issued by USIS starts with the immortal words, 'It may be some time before the real meaning of the urban riots, with their widespread burning of buildings, looting and shooting from rooftops, be-

all free world shipping to North Vietnam was being conducted by vessels flying the British flag, registered in Hong Kong and under charter to Communist China or North Vietnam. Mr. Macomber added, 'In this connection, the British Government will no doubt take into consideration the likely reaction of Communist China towards the Crown Colony of

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I'm sure Dave Burden agrees with this but his article was a bit ambiguous. Another spreader of confusion is Gerry Bree, who has linked anarchism and the Hippy Movement. There's a lot of sense in the hippy attitude to sex. But on other things they are foolish. Stop people in the street and ask them 'What's a hippy?'—you get answers like 'a drug addict', 'the flower people'. I take a drug—alcohol—but I'm not so daft as to make a religion of it. And as for giving flowers to the police!!! (contd.)!!

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AVOIDING GREECE

A LETTER in *The Times* from Mrs. Margaret Curwen, Honorary Secretary of the British Liaison Committee for Women's Peace Groups, is asking for a tourist boycott of Greece.

Mrs. Curwen wants people to postpone their visits to Greece. She asks them to inform the Greek authorities of their decision.

This, she hopes, might improve the lot of the many thousands of **political** prisoners.

Another method is more effective. By all means cancel that **holiday** in Greece but there is much to be done on the spot.

There are many comrades in Greece now, from the International Movement, to see what they can do.

R.

NOT DEAD BUT . . .

Dear Editors,

In 'Talking Points' your contributor talks about the complete failure of CND, saying CND is finished.

Could I begin by pointing out one of the salient facts of life, unpalatable as it may be to some, that when CND organise a national or large regional demo, they can still get many more supporters out than a similarly organised anarchist demo—for a group that no longer exists, this is, don't you think, just a little curious?

CND is not what it was, this is quite obvious, but while it has failed to mobilise more action for real revolutionary ends, it did show what was possible. It has now entered what Max Weber called the bureaucratic stage and its organisation and tactics are rather different. But exist it does.

What we as anarchists must do, is work with CND in places where CND is the only effective group for action, and where we are strong, try and work with CND on the basis of equality. This latter, of course, is often very difficult, as CND in many places, including nationally, regards itself as an umbrella organisation and will not meet us on this basis. What we must also do is be a little bit more disciplined in our actions.

What I mean here is that we must lay our cards on the table and say: 'If you follow our wishes then we will work with you, but if you try and pull the wool over our eyes, like, for example, Labour MPs at an Easter Monday Trafalgar Square platform contrary to our expressed wishes, then this washes our agreement out'.

This means if we decide to participate in a demo, we do so on the basis of equality, not under the CND leadership umbrella. And those who do not participate in the liaison and decision-making do not come on the demo, or if they do, do so according to agreements previously worded (if they don't like this, they can stay away).

Much of the ill-feeling between CND and the anarchists is due to them trying to pull the wool over our eyes but much of it is due to the complete inability to communicate with each other.

As I said once, about two years ago, I'm sick of getting fairly confidential letters and circulars returned marked 'Not Known' by the GPO and also of having letters not replied to (though here sometimes 'even' I err). Contact between anarchist groups is often closer than CND groups but not much closer. Also we are very unreliable. We often say we will do things but these never come off, appointments made are forgotten, and promises broken. The anarchist movement is not going to be at all effective unless it starts to work consistently and fully for peace/political action. When it does so, something tangible will come of it. But until then we must admit that CND is doing more action than us and a darned sight more effectively—in Birmingham, for example, CND is still more effective than the anarchists, because the latter have still never realised that to succeed one must work as a Commune—a team—and until we do so we will never achieve anything as a group.

Fraternally,

PETER NEVILLE.

An Injustice to One is an Injustice to All

'IT SEEMS we have heard this call before.' Rootes at Stoke are calling for voluntary redundancy or else. Rootes are having a 'shake out' in all their plants. Rootes at Ryton are in the process of sacking 100 workers. At their service depot at Acton 34 men were given their cards with cash in lieu of notice. No consultation on the problem. Workers at the Canterbury plant are also threatened.

The secretary of the shop stewards combine, who was convener of the now closed Thrupp and Maberley plant, expressed the view that the Thrupp closure was taken lying down. 'We should have fought to the death to prevent closure.'

Three thousand workers at Rootes Stoke factory have voted to resist redundancy by strike action. Their policy is work-sharing even on the basis of a three-day week. They argue that they must fight now or see their shop organisation smashed to pieces.

This struggle could be a hard and difficult one, there cannot be a repetition of the BMC fiasco where at the end the workers were split amongst themselves.

These sackings are not just haphazard but a deliberate plan to cut back the labour force, and maintain, if not increase, production. Those fortunate enough to be retained, obtain a few more crumbs from the cake, those sacked receive the dole.

Ford Motor Company are trying their utmost to push through a new pay and grading structure, tied in with productivity, which in fact means the workers pay for their own increases. The Ford management plead poverty. 'No more money in the kitty' is their snivelling whine.

Ford's management are not fools, they play one union against another. It is understood that the major unions are near to agreement, but the smaller ones have problems. Many unions means many problems, dividing the workers, helping them to lose sight of the common enemy.

Vauxhall Motors are attempting to introduce a new wages structure—tied to PRODUCTIVITY (the most revered word in the English language). The unions are claiming a £2 per week interim agreement with a further £2 tied in with productivity.

The TUC hatchet committee is expected to agree with Vauxhall that every increase must be geared to productivity.

The theme is the same throughout the motor industry. The employers have an obvious joint policy backed by the Government and the TUC. All car workers must have a joint form of action. If they have not, then they will be cut to ribbons.

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Having said that, DATA will most certainly have a fight on its hands with the Government because, if any employer does agree to an increase, the Government could implement the new Prices and Incomes Act which can delay wage increases up to seven months. If this situation does arise then DATA merits the support of all industrial workers.

To be perfectly frank the Government is literally getting away with murder on the wages question.

The majority of workers have taken the medicine like good Labour Party stooges—'My Party Right or Wrong'. It is not a bit of use blaming leaders or lack of leadership. We are to blame for our misguided bloody loyalty. If action is not taken soon it will be too late, and we will wonder what has hit us.

BILL CHRISTOPHER.

Contact Column

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Floor Space Required, Sheffield. For three comrades August 21-23, in or around Sheffield. Contact B. P. Norcott, 116 Lower Cippenham Lane, Slough.

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Change of address. Ian and Peggy Sutherland are now at 8 Esslemont Avenue, Aberdeen.

Accommodation. One or two comrades offered share of country cottage (West Country) in return for few hours work weekly. Own transport essential. Box 63.

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Flats and Houses Cleaned. Simple redecoration and gardening jobs wanted. A. W. Uloth, 75 Templars Avenue, London, N.W.11.

Come Home All is Forgiven. Wanted news of whereabouts of Lewisham Anarchist banner arrested in Genocide Square. News to Lewisham Group.

Accommodation—London. Any kind of accommodation wanted from Aug./Sept./Oct. for anarchist-inclined student (male). No petty restrictions. Apply Paul Kiddey, 1 West Hill Way, Totteridge, London, N.20.

Margaret Lathey. Please contact Freedom Press.

Janet Chatten. Please contact Freedom Press.

Lewisham Anarchist Group. Wish to thank contributors to the Dave and Terry Fund especially 'L' of Hounslow.

Broadmoor patient soon to be released needs job. Replies to A.R. Reading Group.

Former Junkie. Wants job and accommodation in London. Box 54.

Accommodation. Comrade seeks accommodation in West Country. Box 64.

Musicians. Required for a South-East London Anarchist Social on September 23. Enquiries and quotes to Lewisham Anarchists address.

Blues. Piano player wishes to join/form R & B group. Please phone Eddie, 722 9188.

Brixton Prison to Downing Street. Saturday, August 12 assemble 2 p.m. for meeting. March to Down- (Lyhan Road—back of Prison) at ing Street for 5 p.m. in support of Jim Radford and Nicolas Walter.

If you wish to make contact let us know.

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ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND FOR GROWN-UPS

ON JULY 20, Mrs. Wilson gave a tea-party at No. 10 Downing Street, to raise the money for Centre 42 to buy the freehold of the Roundhouse at Chalk Farm. When the party was over, the money was there. So it seems that at last Arnold Wesker's plans for purveying culture to the masses will go ahead. The first phase of development will be to convert the building for use as a rehearsal hall for three London symphony orchestras. The cost—£8,000—is to be paid by the Arts Council. The Centre hopes to open in two years' time with its own theatre company, ballet rehearsal rooms, opera, writers' workshops, etc. For me, the whole scheme makes a grim and sad contrast to the use the Roundhouse was put to during the last two weeks of July.

The building is Victorian, functional, magnificent, and extremely shabby. The roof leaks in several places, the floor is covered in dust, the yard is full of junk. There, for two weeks we heard lectures by some of the most revolutionary thinkers in the western world, we sang mantras with Allen Ginsberg, we rebelled, we organised, we talked, we learnt how to get high on oxygen, how to get stoned on human communication. Several people brought sleeping-bags and actually lived there. The local kids, too, wandered in and made themselves at home. A huge swing had been hung from the gallery, and kids and grown-ups swung and climbed. One afternoon, when a large audience was sitting waiting for Herbert Marcuse to arrive for a lecture, the kids settled themselves on the platform; one urchin took the microphone and announced that he would now recite some of his own verses. He did so, to enthusiastic applause.

On the last day, a gang of kids appeared with some hollyhocks each about six feet tall: goodness knows where they had nicked them from, but they made a splendid parade around the hall, and gave a hollyhock away to anybody who wanted one, saying they could easily get more.

Meanwhile, the grown-ups also played. A pedal organ in one corner was in constant use. Impromptu poetry recitals were held. Poems were pinned up on the wall, and were joined by a set of charcoal drawings. Someone discovered an old piano frame in the yard and began playing on it with two sticks: others joined in with metal pipes, milk crates, tin cans, and produced a mind-blowing sound. At odd moments people played flutes, banjos, recorders. Another time, a middle-aged Dane announced that he felt like dancing: he danced, someone played a tambourine, others clapped or beat a rhythm on the hollow iron pillars.

I doubt if Centre 42 will see as much real creativity in ten years as we saw in these two weeks of the 'Dialectics of Liberation' congress. And I doubt if, when the Roundhouse has become Arnold Wesker's People's Palace of Culture, the local Chalk Farm kids will come within spitting distance of it. Or if they do, it will probably be to break a window or chalk rude words on the newly-smart walls, not to recite poems and hand out flowers.

ANNE MARIE FEARON.

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Printed by Express Printers, London, E.1. Published by Freedom Press, 17a Maxwell Road, London, S.W.6.

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Freedom
For Workers' Control

AUGUST 12 1967 Vol 28 No 24

MYTON'S TRYING TO GET OFF THE HOOK

MYTON, the building contractors, are starting legal proceedings against the City of London in an attempt to end the existing contract or to negotiate a new one on the Barbican scheme. The company gave notice to the City of London Corporation that they wished to end their contract, but the Corporation disputes the legality of this notice and so now they have gone to law.

Mytons were to have finished the contract by the end of next year. However, no work has been done on the site since last October when the management sacked three steel fixers for not working hard enough. The whole job came out on strike in support, but returned to work for negotiations, only to be sacked two days later.

This dispute and the one at Sunleys, Westminster, were the subject of a Government Court of Inquiry under Lord Cameron. Although this inquiry took place in June, the report of their findings has still to be published. It is not expected for some weeks and no doubt it is this delay that has prompted Mytons to take this unusual action.

In a statement to the Corporation, Mytons say that they were prevented from carrying out the £5,500,000 contract by circumstances 'amounting to *force majeure*'. They also say that their attempts to re-open the site were 'frustrated by the disruptive activities of a group of agitators who are outside the control of the trade unions and who have organised mass picketing and intimidation of men willing to work on the site'.

However, when Mytons gave their evidence at the Court of Inquiry, they put more blame on the architects, Chamberlain, Powell and Bonn, than they did on site union organisation. Then they said it was the constant changes in the architects' plans, with late and contradictory instructions which made a bonus scheme difficult to operate. Under these circumstances, Mytons said, the design and also by repeated changes and alterations'.

Mytons are now trying to get out of the mess by blaming the stewards who still picket the site. Mytons thought that by sacking the whole labour force last October, they would smash the union organisation. They never bargained for the continual support by the men for the stewards after the official union-management agreement in February for a return to work without them. (See FREEDOM, 25.2.67.) The attempt to move in scabs, with union consent, was also thwarted by the Myton lads, with the support from the neighbouring Laing and Turriff jobs.

Mytons would not give in to the pickets and so now they are trying to cut what must already be very substantial losses. With the job only just about out of the ground, Mytons could afford a long dispute and, after smashing the site's union organisation, they could have made up their losses. This was even possible in February, but it failed. So without waiting for the Cameron report, they are trying to get themselves off the hook.

What has beaten Mytons is the continual picketing by a handful of militants. These pickets have had the support of the men sacked in October by Mytons and, although they found other jobs then, they were not prepared to 'scab' when the union and management wanted them back without their stewards. The solidarity shown by the men on the rest of the Barbican scheme has soon put paid to any further ideas of moving in 'scabs'.

Both the Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers and the Plumbers' Trade Union have expelled members for continuing to picket the site, but they are still there, only because other workers have helped them by keeping them in funds, at least enough to get by on. Readers can help in keeping the picket

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sation to fight, and in consequence get trampled to death, whilst the better organised shops can possibly win the day. Under a national agreement all employers are forced to pay when an agreement has been reached, and therefore the weaker organised shops are protected.

Having said that, DATA will most certainly have a fight on its hands with the Government because, if any employer does agree to an increase, the Government could implement the new Prices and Incomes Act which can delay wage increases up to seven months. If this situation does arise then DATA merits the support of all industrial workers.

To be perfectly frank the Government is literally getting away with murder on the wages question.

The majority of workers have taken the medicine like good Labour Party stooges—'My Party Right or Wrong'. It is not a bit of use blaming leaders or lack of leadership. We are to blame for our misguided bloody loyalty. If action is not taken soon it will be too late, and we will wonder what has hit us.

BILL CHRISTOPHER.

ITURE PLAYGROUND ROWN-UPS

Mrs. Wilson gave a
o. 10 Downing Street,
ey for Centre 42 to
of the Roundhouse at
en the party was over,
ere. So it seems that
ker's plans for purvey-
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uilding for use as a
r three London sym-
The cost—£8,000—is
e Arts Council. The
pen in two years' time
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opera, writers' work-
me, the whole scheme
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se was put to during
of July.
Victorian, functional,
xtremely shabby. The
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cal kids, too, wandered
mselves at home. A
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e afternoon, when a
as sitting waiting for
to arrive for a lecture,
emselves on the plat-
took the microphone
that he would now
s own verses. He did
applause.
lay, a gang of kids

appeared with some hollyhocks each about six feet tall: goodness knows where they had nicked them from, but they made a splendid parade around the hall, and gave a hollyhock away to anybody who wanted one, saying they could easily get more.

Meanwhile, the grown-ups also played. A pedal organ in one corner was in constant use. Impromptu poetry recitals were held. Poems were pinned up on the wall, and were joined by a set of charcoal drawings. Someone discovered an old piano frame in the yard and began playing on it with two sticks: others joined in with metal pipes, milk crates, tin cans, and produced a mind-blowing sound. At odd moments people played flutes, banjos, recorders. Another time, a middle-aged Dane announced that he felt like dancing: he danced, someone played a tambourine, others clapped or beat a rhythm on the hollow iron pillars.

I doubt if Centre 42 will see as much real creativity in ten years as we saw in these two weeks of the 'Dialectics of Liberation' congress. And I doubt if, when the Roundhouse has become Arnold Wesker's People's Palace of Culture, the local Chalk Farm kids will come within spitting distance of it. Or if they do, it will probably be to break a window or chalk rude words on the newly-smart walls, not to recite poems and hand out flowers.

ANNE MARIE FEARON.

SIX SHILLINGS EACH WILL BRING THEM 'FREEDOM' AND 'ANARCHY' FOR TWO MONTHS WITH YOUR COMPLIMENTS.

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still picket the site. Mytons thought that by sacking the whole labour force last October, they would smash the union organisation. They never bargained for the continual support by the men for the stewards after the official union-management agreement in February for a return to work without them. (See FREEDOM, 25.2.67.) The attempt to move in scabs, with union consent, was also thwarted by the Myton lads, with the support from the neighbouring Laing and Turriff jobs.

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Bro. M. Houlihan, 94 Gayton House, Knapp Road, Bow, E.3.

P.T.

Work-to-rule Works

THE TOP BUREAUCRATS who make the decisions on the British Railways Board, either do not take the trouble to see how their decisions affect people, or just do not care. They live in a world which seems not to have any human feeling, and their scheme started without first getting an agreement with those involved.

To think that the bureaucrats who run BR are any different from those who run private industry is being naive. If anything they are worse. Take this week's one-day strike and work-to-rule by footplatemen at Stratford depot. They have described themselves as the 'forgotten men'. They took action over the question of allocation of the long-distance driving. This pays a higher bonus rate than the shorter hauls and they felt that they were being left out, as most of the former was going to other depots.

This was probably the straw that broke the camel's back, because there were long-standing complaints about the 'deplorable' state of their nineteenth century canteen which, they claim, is bug-infested. Railwaymen have also complained about the delays in issuing protective clothing and new uniforms.

The action of the footplatemen brought chaos to train services, even though the work-to-rule was not applied in a strict way. Union officials of both unions involved, the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen and the National Union of Railwaymen, tried to get the men to work normally, but they only called off their work-to-rule when they had got guarantees that there would be a 'more equitable' sharing between depots of the long-distance schedules and that welfare facilities would be improved.

However, further action can be expected if BR do not carry out their promises and, as every railwayman knows, that has been often. Next time the footplatemen's work-to-rule could be applied far more drastically.

P.T.

. 17a Maxwell Road, London, S.W.6.